

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 27, 2022

Representative Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

Thank you for your ongoing support for funding efforts to protect our communities from harmful PFAS chemicals.

As you finalize priorities for the upcoming Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, we strongly encourage you to build on the progress made in last year's appropriations bills by making funding to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) a priority across FY 23 appropriations bills.

Action on PFAS is urgently needed. It is estimated that PFAS chemicals likely contaminate the drinking water of more than 200 million Americans. To date, there are more than 700 active or closed military installations with known or suspected PFAS chemical contamination. Nearly everyone tested in the U.S. has PFAS compounds [in their blood](#), with exposure from many sources, including food, water, consumer products and dust.

Congress took significant bipartisan action through the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act and through annual appropriations for several agencies to bring about greater federal focus on protecting our communities, firefighters, service members and their families from exposure to PFAS chemicals. Much more needs to be done to support critical PFAS infrastructure, scientific, regulatory and clean-up needs.

To build on the progress we have made, we propose the following provisions for inclusion in FY 23 appropriations:

## *FY 23 Defense Appropriations Bill*

**Increase dedicated funding for PFAS remediation in the Defense Environmental Restoration Account and Operation and Maintenance Account.** The Department of Defense (DoD) must accelerate its slow pace of PFAS testing and cleanup at military installations and National Guard facilities across the country. At the current pace of cleanup, it could take 30 years to clean up PFAS at contaminated installations, according to DoD's own estimates, meaning our servicemembers, veterans and communities that live near contaminated installations continue to be exposed.

**Provide funding to expand and support PFAS blood testing for servicemembers.** The NDAA for FY2020 requires that active-duty military firefighters have their blood tested for PFAS during annual physicals.

**Provide funding to support expanded procurement of PFAS-free products, including personal protective equipment for firefighters and first responders.** DoD should be provided with funding adequate to implement the President's executive order (E.O. 14057) requiring federal agencies to prioritize the purchase of alternatives to PFAS-containing products.

**Provide funding necessary for responsible Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) disposal and remediation and prohibit funding for the incineration of AFFF consistent with the moratorium established by the FY22 NDAA.**

**Provide additional resources to support the rapid development of a PFAS-free firefighting agent.**

*FY23 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill*

**Increase dedicated funding for PFAS chemical remediation in the Base Realignment and Closure Account (BRAC).**

**Provide funding for the Department of Veterans' Affairs to research the health effects of PFAS.**

*FY23 Interior-Environment Appropriations Bill*

**Provide funding additional funding to support activities identified in EPA's PFAS Roadmap.**

**Provide additional funding for water infrastructure to help water utilities protect communities from PFAS.**

**Provide additional funding for the U.S. Geological Survey's efforts to monitor for PFAS to meet the authorized amount.**

*FY23 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration Appropriations Bill*

**Funding to support the FDA's review and regulation of PFAS:**

- *PFAS in Cosmetics.* Public health experts remain concerned over the effects of toxic chemicals used in cosmetics, including PFAS. To promote safety, we encourage funding to examine the health effects of PFAS chemicals and evaluate efforts to phase out their use in cosmetic and personal care products.
- *PFAS in Food.* Additional resources are needed to investigate PFAS in our national diet and take regulatory actions to address PFAS in food packaging and other food contact substances, as well as through contaminated crops, feed, and animals.

**Funding for U.S. Department of Agriculture activities:**

- We urge dedicated funding to USDA to conduct regional as well as nationwide sampling of foods and agricultural commodities for PFAS.

Thank you for your work on the Appropriations Committee and for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,




Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



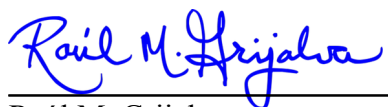
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Andy Levin  
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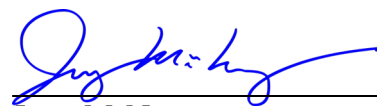
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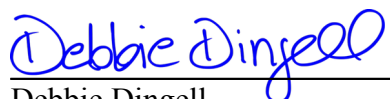
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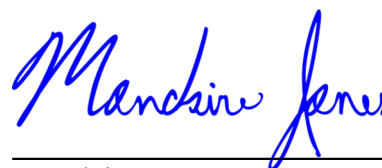


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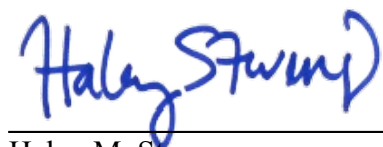
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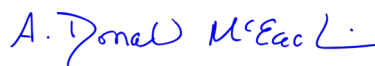
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